

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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ICA-11 ACDA-12 EB-08 TRSE-00 OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02
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R 311333Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9815
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 3692

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CB, RO
SUBJ: CEAUSESCU VISIT TO CAMBODIA

1. SUMMARY. HIGHLIGHT OF CEAUSESCU'S MAY 28-30 STATE VISIT
TO CAMBODIA WAS SIGNATURE OF TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION
WHICH IS COUCHED IN MOST MILITANT LANGUAGE WE HAVE SEEN IN A
FORMAL DOCUMENT SIGNED BY GOR. "EXPANSIONISTS", A TERM WE
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HAVE NOT SEEN BEFORE BUT WHICH CLEARLY REFERS TO VIETNAMESE
AND THEIR ALLIES, RECEIVE PARTICULAR CONDEMNATION. RESULT
IS TO PLACE ROMANIA IN HIGHLY UNUSUAL POSITION OF
BEING SEEN BY MANY OBSERVERS AS HAVING CHOSEN
SIDES IN A SIGNIFICANT CONFLICT BETWEEN TWO COMMUNIST
STATES. END SUMMARY.

2. ALTHOUGH ROMANIA HAS TREATIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH MOST COMMUNIST (ALTHOUGH NOT WITH VIET NAM) AND A FEW NON-COMMUNIST NATIONS, TREATY WITH CAMBODIA (ASSUME FBIS HAS TEXT) IS UNIQUE IN ITS MILITANT RHETORIC WHICH

IS EVEN MORE FORCEFUL THAN LANGUAGE OF TREATY WITH NORTH KOREA. HEAVY EMPHASIS IS LAID ON NEED FOR FULL SOVEREIGNTY OF ALL STATES FREE OF ANY KIND OF OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE; ALL ATTEMPTS BY ONE STATE TO USE FORCE IN ITS RELATIONS WITH OTHERS ARE STRONGLY CONDEMNED; RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENSE IS AFFIRMED; UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT IS PLEDGED TO ALL REVOLUTIONARY AND NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS; "EXPANSIONISTS" ARE CONDEMNED ON SAME PAR AS IMPERIALISTS AND COLONIALISTS; AND RIGHT OF ALL NATIONS FOR EQUAL ACCESS TO RAW MATERIALS, ENERGY SOURCES, AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IS SPECIFICALLY CITED.

3. ACTUAL PROVISIONS OF TREATY, HOWEVER, ARE UNEXCEPTIONAL-- AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP CONTACTS, EXCHANGE DELEGATIONS, AND SHARE EXPERIENCES IN A WIDE VARIETY OF FIELDS; TO INCREASE TRADE; TO ADVOCATE A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ORDER; TO PUSH FOR DISARMAMENT; TO WORK TOGETHER IN THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA; AND TO CONSULT

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WITH EACH OTHER PERIODICALLY. FINAL PROVISION CLAIMS THAT NONE OF ABOVE VITIATES OBLIGATIONS UNDERTAKEN IN OTHER TREATIES TO WHICH EITHER SIDE IS A PARTY. WITHIN TREATY CONTEXT, BOTH SIDES ALSO SIGNED AN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT, A TRADE AGREEMENT, AND AN ACCORD ON FISHING; JOINT COMMUNIQUE ALSO SPECIFIES THAT RESIDENT AMBASSADORS WILL BE EXCHANGED (ROMANIA HAS A CHARGE IN PNOM PENH, BUT THERE ARE NO CAMBODIAN DIPLOMATS RESIDENT IN BUCHAREST AT THIS TIME.)

4. SEVERAL OTHER POINTS FROM VISIT ALSO STRIKE US. DURING DEPARTURE CEREMONY, BOTH CEAUSESCU AND POL POT WENT OUT OF THEIR WAY TO STRESS IMPORTANCE OF THE TREATY WHICH WAS DESCRIBED AS THE FIRST BETWEEN "DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHIA" AND ANY OTHER COUNTRY. OFFICIAL RCP DAILY SCINTEIA LAID GREAT STRESS ON THE "UNUSUAL" WARMTH AND CORDIALITY OF VISIT, ATMOSPHERE OF WHICH WAS CHARACTERIZED IN GLOWING TERMS. CEAUSESCU IS ALSO QUOTED AS EXTOLLING THE "IDENTITY OF VIEWS" ON INTERSTATE RELATIONS. BANQUET TOAST OF POL POT WAS ALSO VERY STRONG WITH REPEATED BALSTS AT "EXPANSIONISTS" AND THOSE WHO AID THEM, STRESS ON TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, VOW TO REEPL ALL AGGRESSION AGAINST CAMBODIAN

TERRITORY, AND RINGING PLEDGE OF SOLIDARTIY WITH LDC'S AND NON-ALIGNED NATIONS. CEAUSESCU, ON OTHER HAND, LIMITED HIMSELF TO EXPRESSING HIS "CONCERN" ABOUT ARMED CONFLICTS (VENUE UNSPECIFIED), ALL OF WHICH SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY DIRECT AND PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS; COMMUNIST STATES ESPECIALLY, HE ADDED, SHOULD DEVELOP "RELATIONS OF A NEW TYPE, BASED ON FULL EQUALITY AND RESPECT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF EACH NATION", SO AS TO CONSTITUTE A MODEL OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES.

5. THERE WAS NO REFERENCE, EVEN INDIRECT, IN ANY OF THE PUBLIC STATEMENTS AS REPORTED BY ROMANIAN MEDIA OF THE DOMESTIC TURMOIL WITHIN CAMBODIA OR OF THE GROSS ATROCITIES COMMITTED THERE.

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6. COMMENT. IT SEEMS TO US THAT TREATY AND ACCOMPANYING RHETORIC WILL INDICATE TO MANY OBSERVERS THAT ROMANIA HAS CHOSEN SIDES IN FAVOR OF CAMBODIA IN ITS CONFLICT WITH VIET NAM, ALTHOUGH ROMANIANS WILL PRESUMABLY DENY IT. NEVERTHELESS, THIS PERCEPTION IS SUFFICIENT TO NULLIFY ANY POSSIBILITY OF ROMANIAN MEDIATION IN THE CONFLICT, WHETHER CEAUSESCU EVER INTENDED TO PLAY SUCH A ROLE OR NOT. IT IS EXTRAORDINARY, AT THE LEAST, FOR CEAUSESCU TO HAVE PLACED HIMSELF AND HIS PARTY IN SUCH A POSITION SINCE USUAL ROMANIAN MODUS OPERANDI IS TO BE SEEN AS THE FRIEND OF ALL SIDES AND PARTISAN OF NONE. WE WOULD FURTHER NOTE THAT, FOR ALL OF ITS STRIDENT TONE, MILITANCE ON SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, ET AL ALSO IS GRIST FOR ROMANIAN MILL IN ITS DEALINGS WITH ITS LARGE SOVIET NEIGHBOR.

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